(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As stated above, the RBPH of Sardar Sarovar project, which is also an ongoing project, does not fall within the framework of the revised mega power policy and is not included in the list of identified mega power projects. The revised mega power policy also does not provide for inclusion of such ongoing projects.

Cess on power generation

5595. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to levy cess on power generation;

(b) if so, whether the bill was passed;

(c) if passed, the amount so collected;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of amount utilised on survey and investigation, investment in pre-construction, development of small and mini hydro projects, renovation and modernisation of transmission lines, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI MATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The Policy on Hydro Power Development announced by the Government in August, 1998 provides for the establishment of National Power Development Fund through levy of cess at 10 paise per Kwh of electricity consumed in the country. A proposal to levy cess at 5 paise per Kwh of electricity generated was subsequently put up for consideration of the Government but was deferred.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Violation of PPA

5596. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to enquire into blatant violation of Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) entered into by the AP Transco with Spectrum Power Generation Limited as reported in the "Deccan Chronicle' dated 13th April, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to save consumers from the alleged fraud?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI MATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the 208 MW Godavari Combine Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) power project of M/s. Spectrum Power Generation Limited has been signed between the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board and the project developers. Government of India (GOI) is neither a signatory party to the PPA nor is it required to approve the same unless there is a proposal from the State Government for approval of deviations, if any, from the GOI tariff notification dated 30.3.1992. In the case of Godavari CCGT power project, no proposal has been received for approval of any deviations.

The Godavari project was techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 3.1.1994 at provisional cost of Rs. 748.43 crores calculated at the then prevailing foreign exchange rate. As per the tariff notification, the project developer is required to approach CEA for approval of the actual capital expenditure incurred on completion of the project which would be the criterion for fixation of tariff. In case the actual expenditure exceeds the project cost, the excesses as approved by CEA shall be deemed to be the actual capital expenditure for the purpose of determining the tariff, provided that such excess expenditure is not attributable to the Generating Company or its suppliers or contractors.

M/s. Spectrum Power Generation Ltd., have not yet approached CEA for approval of actual final completed cost. The completed cost has also to be recommended by the State Government to the CEA. In view of the above position, it would be premature to set up an inquiry in the matter.

NTPC participation in Dahej LNG project

5597. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC is taking a stake of 26% in the Dahej LNG project;

(b) if so, the capital outlay for this stake;

(c) the role of NTPC in this venture;

(d) to what extent Dahej LNG Terminal in any way is connected with the core competence of NTPC;

(e) whether NTPC is withdrawing funds from projects connected directly with power generation to participate in this venture; and